



MINIDOKA COUNTY PROFILE

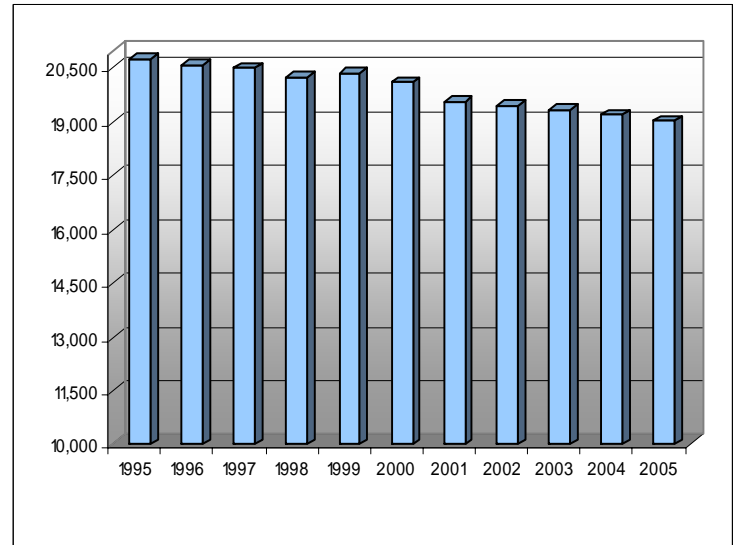
Prepared by Gregory Rogers, Regional Labor Economist, Idaho Commerce & Labor
 771 N. College Road, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303—(208) 735-2500, ext. 3639
 E-Mail: grogers@cl.idaho.gov — Labor Market Information website: cl.idaho.gov/lmi

June 2006

Population

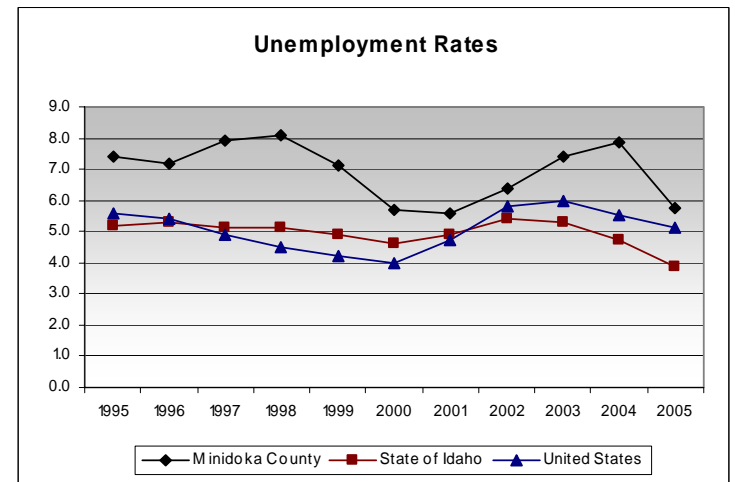
The population of Minidoka County has declined perceptibly in the last ten years. The population was 20,759 in 1995 and 19,014 in 2005, a decline of 8.4 percent.

The area is heavily dependent upon agriculture and food processing jobs. Wages tend to be low in the area and can be a challenge in attracting new residents. Recent business closures will continue to have a negative impact on population. Out migration and its socioeconomic impacts such as loss of tax base and school funding will be heavily felt in Minidoka County in the foreseeable future



Labor Force & Employment

Minidoka County traditionally has the highest unemployment rate of all the counties in South Central Idaho. In the last decade, the unemployment rate peaked at a high of 8.1 percent in 1998 and reached a low for the decade of 5.6 percent in 2001. Many workers rely on fresh pack potato operators, farm jobs, and local potato processing. In May 2002, the J.R. Simplot Company announced closed its Heyburn Plant by 2004, displacing approximately 600 workers. This closure resulted in the unemployment rate increasing to 7.9 percent in 2004. Economic development activities have resulted in several new companies locating in the area which has resulted in the unemployment rate dropping to 5.9 percent in 2005.



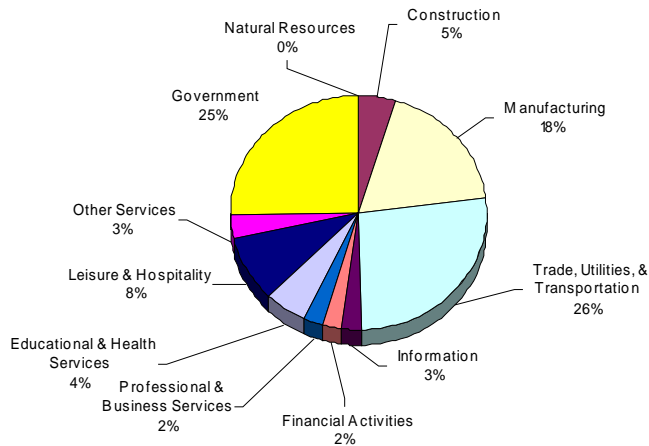
Labor Force	May 2005	May 2006
Civilian Labor Force	9,763	10,198
Total Employment	9,161	9,645
Unemployed	602	554
Minidoka County % Unemployed	6.2	5.4
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.9	3.4
U.S. % Unemployed	5.1	4.7

Minidoka County is commonly combined with Cassia County and is referred to as the Mini-Cassia area. The city of Burley lies in both counties making the two counties economically tied together. The Mini-Cassia area has a good workforce, transportation, and the fact that the area is a Federal Labor Surplus Area.

The major industry in Minidoka County agriculture and related industries which include food processing and transportation.

Labor Force	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Civilian Labor Force	10,176	10,241	9,872	9,876	9,822	10,150	9,844	9,517	9,427	9,381	9,646
Unemployment	758	739	776	799	702	576	547	610	696	740	556
% of Labor Force Unemployed	7.4	7.2	7.9	8.1	7.1	5.7	5.6	6.4	7.4	7.9	5.8
Employment	9,418	9,502	9,096	9,077	9,120	9,574	9,297	8,907	8,731	8,641	9,090

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2004



Wages & Income

Minidoka County is a low-income area. Per capita income has increased from \$15,504 in 1995 to \$19,441 in 2004. This is an increase of 25 percent. Minidoka County ranks 41st out of Idaho's 44 counties in per capita income. The outlook for income growth is currently not positive. With recent business closures, it appears that income levels will not grow significantly in the near future.

Major Employers

Minidoka County
Minidoka County School District
Minidoka Memorial Hospital
Kraft
Amalgamated Sugar
City of Rupert
Magic Valley Foods
Burley Inn, Inc.

Occupational Wages*

Average Wage

Teachers	\$14.82
Registered Nurses	\$18.58
Certified Nurses Aides	\$7.01
Receptionists	\$8.38
Bank Tellers	\$8.32
Cashiers	\$6.35
Telemarketers	\$7.19
Retail Sales	\$7.49
Medical Housekeeping	\$6.18
Landscapers	\$8.37
Construction Labor	\$11.52
Food Processors	\$9.96
Cheese Processors	\$9.42
Milkers	\$9.90
Farm Labor	\$6.34

* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Commerce & Labor website at cl.idaho.gov/lmi.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1994, 2003, & 2004	1994		2003		2004	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	7,340	\$18,783	6,826	\$22,920	6,769	\$23,718
Agriculture	959	\$14,682	1,210	\$19,573	1,229	\$20,299
Mining	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Construction	271	\$22,790	234	\$22,912	271	\$23,013
Manufacturing	*	*	1,159	\$33,649	1,033	\$36,661
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	1,537	\$18,269	1,484	\$23,413	1,479	\$24,170
Information	84	\$19,395	148	\$23,554	148	\$25,143
Financial Activities	103	\$18,443	113	\$23,488	123	\$24,498
Professional and Business Services	195	\$14,295	142	\$21,446	138	\$23,096
Educational and Health Services	176	\$14,581	288	\$15,066	318	\$16,500
Leisure and Hospitality	524	\$6,910	495	\$9,586	494	\$9,431
Other Services	140	\$11,835	150	\$15,598	146	\$15,897
Government	1,385	\$18,875	1,403	\$23,565	1,390	\$24,169

Per Capita Income	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Minidoka County	\$15,504	\$16,051	\$15,763	\$16,520	\$17,207	\$17,446	\$18,357	\$19,226	\$17,864	\$19,441
State of Idaho	\$18,707	\$19,426	\$20,248	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,075	\$25,185	\$25,330	\$26,877
United States	\$22,172	\$23,076	\$24,175	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,845	\$30,575	\$30,804	\$31,472

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:
Idaho Commerce & Labor
127 West 5th Street North
Burley, ID 83318 Ph: (208) 678-5518

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